

REMARKS

Examiner Interview

Applicant's representative wishes to express his appreciation for the Examiner's cordial reception during the Office Interview conducted on April 23, 2008. The Examiner's comments and suggestions for additional limitations to be added to the claims to overcome the art of record were very helpful in preparing this amendment and Applicant's representative wishes to express his appreciation for the Examiner's assistance.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to include additional limitations not disclosed in the prior art. No new matter has been added by the amendment to claim 1. Claims 2-6, and 8-13 have been canceled by the present amendment to expedite the prosecution of the present application (claims 7 and 11 were previously cancelled). Claims 14-20 were previously withdrawn from consideration. New claim 21 has been added to include limitations similar to those added to claim 1 yet recite a different number and spacing of screed ridges. No new matter has been added by the addition of claim 21.

35 U.S.C. 103 Claim Rejections

Claims 1-6, 8-10, 12, and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Chen (U.S. Patent No. 4,611,450) in view of Chen (U.S. Patent 6,820,387)(all but claim 9) and, with respect to claim 9, in further view of Salisbury (U.S. Patent No. 4,104,842). Applicant respectfully submits that the present amendment to the claims obviates the present rejection. Specifically, while Applicant does not acquiesce in the rejections, all of the claims have been cancelled except claim 1 which was amended and claim 21 which is added via this amendment. As amended, the claims now specifically require, *inter alia*, a specific number, and specifically spaced, set of screed ridges be configured as lengthwise running V-shaped impressions

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extending about 1/2 inch from the face of the mesh with the apexes of respective mesh members being diametrically opposed to those of the other mesh member, and also including an outer layer of concrete material disposed to a depth extending from the outer face of the middle member composite of styrene and trusses to the apexes of the mesh members. This combination of features is not taught nor suggested in the prior art. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as set forth in independent claims 1 and 21 is patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is proper and such action is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant now believes the present application is in a condition for allowance and early notification of the same is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the prosecution could be advanced through a telephone conversation, then the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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